

~~Well~~
~~Ben~~
~~Jack~~

Please file FBIS

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

Attached for your information is a proposal to increase public access to the FBIS publication TRENDS IN COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA. I have approved a reduction in the time period for declassification from two years after publication to six months after publication. We plan to make the TRENDS available on a subscription basis through the National Technical Information Service (just as we do with the FBIS Daily Books).

/s/ Ed
Ed Proctor

25 November 1974
(DATE)

cc: DDCI

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

21 November 1974

NOTE FOR: Ed

FROM : Paul

SUBJECT : Declassification of FBIS
Trends

You don't have to read this again. The question is should we continue to classify the Trends Confidential, but now automatically declassify it at the end of six months rather than two years. I solicited reactions from various folk and got the following:

STAT [] -- I thought the DDI had already made the decision to declassify immediately.

Thuermer -- He would like to declassify it at the end of one year. Six months is too soon.

STAT [] - OK in principal to declassify. It is up to the DDI to decide if six months is long enough.

Eisenbeiss -- He would stay with the two-year declassification period. In any event, six months is much too soon.

Walsh -- Let's declassify at the end of one year.

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~~INTERNAL USE ONLY~~

DDI-3284-74

8 November 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Paul Walsh

SUBJECT : FBIS Trends

Some good points have been made in
memorandum of 21 October.

STAT

At the expense of being called Chief Chicken Heart, I
feel that the six months cooling off period is a bit short.
On the other hand, a couple of years does seem a bit long.

Mr. In-Between chooses one year.

STAT

Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director

~~ADMINISTRATIVE~~
~~INTERNAL USE ONLY~~

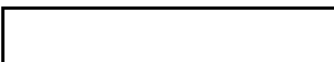
Administrative - Internal Use Only

DDI-3348-74

6 November 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: O/DDI

ATTENTION :



SUBJECT : Declassification of the FBIS *Trends*

REFERENCE : D/FBIS memo dtd 21 Oct 74, same subject

1. This memorandum responds to your request to C/DDI MS for recommendations regarding declassification and public sale of the CONFIDENTIAL *Trends In Communist Propaganda*.

2. The heart of the matter is in paragraph 5, which says briefly that *Trends* are based on open sources but are prepared by analysts in close contact and keenly aware of what goes on throughout the Community.

3. There are two points of view. Either the *Trends* should not be classified because they, to some degree, ignore the classified data; or they should be classified because they reflect, if only by osmosis, knowledge of current classified sources and methods and the results of the appraisals arrived at using these classified sources and methods.

4. FBIS concludes that the later situation prevails and the *Trends* must, consequently, be classified. They propose, however, that the classification can be dropped after six months. The Freedom of Information Act specifies that CONFIDENTIAL information will be declassified after two years unless it is exempt from automatic downgrading. The present policy, consequently, is in accord with the directive.

5. It seems to me that the DDI has three choices:
(a) Insist that the *Trends* do indeed stick to open sources and ignore and/or avoid data that reflects knowledge of what else goes on in the Community. The *Trends* could then be unclassified. (b) Keep things as they are. (c) Move as indicated in the FBIS memorandum, which would have an automatic declassification after six months.

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SUBJECT: Declassification of the FBIS *Trends*

6. My personal recommendation would be to keep things as they are. It seems to be that six months is too brief a period to take the heat off the *Trends*, particularly those that are prepared in response to questions relating to policy and options. Six months is simply too brief a period these days for hot questions to cool off. It also seems to me that for the FBIS Analysis Group to be responsive to the needs of the customers, the *Trends* must at least reflect implicitly the concerns of the policymakers and of the managers of the Intelligence Community.

7. I have no concern with the method of making the *Trends* available to the public. The FBIS memorandum understates the current distribution of CIA materials by DOCEX (currently over 200 customers), but the NTIS does have a certain advantage in that the customer only need pay for that which he wants. The disadvantage is that the customer must pay on an item by item basis, while DOCEX gives for one price all that the Agency provides. CRS has certain gains from dealing with DOCEX but they are not important to other parts of the Agency.

8. In sum, the DDI must decide if six months is a reasonable cooling off period for *Trends*. If it is long enough, the FBIS proposal should be approved. If not, the two-year period should prevail. Totally unclassified *Trends* are possible but ^{not} very satisfactory in my view.

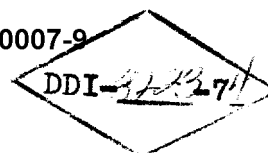
[Redacted Signature]

H. C. EISENBEISS

Director, Central Reference Service

STAT

cc: DDI MS



5 November 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence
THROUGH : Chief, DDI Executive Staff
SUBJECT : Declassification of the FBIS TRENDS
REFERENCE : D/FBIS Memo (DDI-3111-74), dated 21 October 1974,
Subject as above

1. The FBIS proposal to declassify TRENDS following a six month cooling-off period is in accord with the spirit of Executive Order 11652, the Freedom of Information Act and Agency (particularly DDI) policy to provide the academic community with access to research aids. The FBIS rationale for choosing six months appears sound; it is your decision as to whether that time frame provides adequate protection.

2. Representatives of FBIS discussed this proposal with the Chief, Classification Programs Branch, ISAS, during its formulation. He suggested changes in the cover format, gave advice on classification markings and obtained informal approval of these recommendations from the Executive Director, Interagency Classification Review Committee and Director, Records Declassification Division, National Archives. I do not believe any further coordination on this aspect is required.

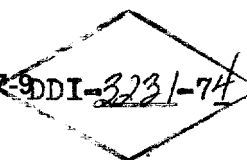


Chief, Information Systems
Analysis Staff

STAT

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Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020007-9



5 November 1974

NOTE FOR: Mr. Paul V. Walsh, A/DDI

SUBJECT : Declassification of the FBIS TRENDS

1. On 2 July 1974, I responded to you about declassification of the TRENDS. Subsequently, on 14 August, I talked to Ed about this issue and he agreed that the TRENDS should be unclassified and distributed through DocEx. I would hold to my general view on the subject as expressed at those times. With regard to [redacted] 21 October 1974 memorandum, I find myself in agreement with his para. 7 which suggests the best way in which to make the TRENDS available to subscribers.

STAT

2. Just to put the whole matter in context, in August Ed asked me to have [redacted] prepare a proposal to issue the TRENDS unclassified. The proposal was to include a disclaimer statement which indicated that the TRENDS were the views of a single office, not of the government. Subsequently, I forwarded to Don's office copies of a number of disclaimer statements used by the Office of Political Research in its publications.

STAT

3. During this period, the [redacted] business occurred, and everyone's attention was diverted from the issue of the TRENDS. When [redacted] returned to the office after some time away, she believed her instruction was to reargue the issue of classification.

STAT

4. It is clear that the whole communication about what to do with the TRENDS was muddled by [redacted] As far as I know, Ed has not changed his mind.

STAT

STAT



Coordinator for Academic Relations

cc: Orig & 1 - ODDI/Exec Staff
1 - DD/PR Chrono
1 - CAR Chrono

DDI-3/11-74

21 October 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Declassification of the FBIS TRENDS

1. This memorandum responds to your request for recommendations regarding the declassification and public dissemination of the Confidential TRENDS IN COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA produced by the FBIS Analysis Group. It reviews decisions over the past few years and in paragraphs 6 and 7 makes specific recommendations for your consideration.

Past and Present Policy

2. In October 1971 past issues of the weekly TRENDS and biweekly SURVEY OF COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA--from 1947 through 1966--were declassified. In 1972 these periodicals were declassified through July 1970. (The SURVEY was discontinued in April 1970.) Also in 1972, following promulgation of Executive Order 11652, the long established practice of classifying publications containing Communist media analysis was reviewed and reconfirmed, except that it was decided that all TRENDS after July 1970 would be automatically declassified two years after date of issue. The declassified TRENDS and SURVEYS were to be made available to the public only upon request to the Assistant to the Director, however. PSD has many of these periodicals on microfilm, but since there has been no advertising the public is not aware that they are available. The sole recipient outside the government is a former AG analyst who knew of the new policy when he resigned in 1972.

3. FBIS analysts and management are entirely sympathetic with Mr. Colby's desire to make more Agency materials available to the public, and are anxious to make past and future declassified TRENDS available to scholars and journalists dealing with foreign relations and communist affairs. For the reasons detailed below, we continue to believe that the TRENDS should be classified Confidential; however, we believe that the period before automatic declassification should be reduced from the present two years to six months and that the declassified TRENDS should be advertised and promptly disseminated to interested subscribers.

Justification for a Classified TRENDS

STAT 4. Classification of the Trends conforms to the guidance contained in []--the Agency's draft regulation with respect to classification and declassification--which notes that National Security Information is defined as that information or material which requires protection in the interest of foreign relations as well as national defense. Inferences and speculation regarding the leadership, policies, relations and intentions of the Soviet, Chinese and other Communist parties are regularly printed in TRENDS articles. For example, an article might speculate on current propaganda signs that certain Soviet, Chinese or other Communist leaders are in trouble. Such analysis by FBIS/CIA, unclassified and immediately available to the public, might well embarrass our Government's relations with the Communist states, particularly during sensitive negotiations. It should be noted that similar analyses of Communist leader speeches and other media materials are classified Confidential in OCI publications.

5. While FBIS analysis is based on open sources, it is prepared by analysts who are in close contact with and keenly aware of the concerns and interests of analysts and foreign affairs experts throughout the Community. Frequently FBIS analysts write articles expressly for these experts, including not only their colleagues in the production offices, but also the NIO's and officers on the NSC Staff, in the State Department, and in DOD. TRENDS articles have been written in direct support of many recent, sensitive negotiations, including SALT, MBFR, and the Middle East, and the role played by propaganda analysis regarding North Vietnamese intentions is well known. AG analyses have supplemented, and in some cases countered, inferences drawn by other offices on the basis of classified sources. There would be great inhibitions to publishing such articles in an unclassified TRENDS immediately available to the public, and we believe the TRENDS without such articles would be less authoritative and less useful.

Automatic Declassification after Six Months

6. We are aware of the argument for issuing an unclassified TRENDS. It would provide further evidence that CIA does indeed intend to abide by the spirit of the Freedom of Information Act, and could serve as a means of stimulating outside interest in and debate on important foreign affairs issues. For the reasons discussed above we are opposed to total declassification. We feel, however, that many of these positive objectives can be realized if the TRENDS are automatically declassified and disseminated

publicly after six months instead of two years. A six-month cooling-off period, in our judgment, would prevent the harm premature disclosure might do to U.S. foreign relations. We therefore request approval of the following recommendations:

- a. The TRENDS continue to be classified "Confidential."
- b. The TRENDS be automatically declassified six months after date of issue.

Increasing the Availability of the TRENDS

7. FBIS believes that the most efficient way of making its declassified analyses widely available to scholars and journalists would be by subscription and by the sale of back issues through NTIS--the channel already used for the public sale of the FBIS Daily Reports, which provide the principal source material for the TRENDS. We examined, but rejected the possibility of distributing the declassified TRENDS through the Library of Congress Document Expediting Project--DOCEX. Subscribers to DOCEX--141 universities and colleges--do not include many prestigious and influential schools, including Harvard, Yale, and Stanford, which would be receptive to the TRENDS. (The thought that DOCEX would be a useful channel for distribution of an unclassified TRENDS had been based on what turned out to be an erroneous assumption that DOCEX delivery would be slow and, therefore, provide a certain cooling off period. DOCEX delivery would be as fast as that by NTIS.) We therefore recommend that NTIS handle the advertising, sale, and subscriptions to the declassified TRENDS since we feel that this would insure that dissemination is carried out in a fair, equitable, and efficient manner. NTIS is interested in providing this service and estimates roughly that it would charge \$25 for each annual subscription. The technical steps which will be required for implementation of our proposals are outlined in an attachment to this memorandum.

STAT

Director

Foreign Broadcast Information Service

Attachment:
As stated

Recommendations in Paragraphs 6 and 7 are APPROVED.

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Date

22 Nov 74

STAT

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Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020007-9

ATTACHMENT

STEPS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSALS

1. Send to the Library of Congress for its retention one set of all the microfilm copies of the declassified TRENDS and SURVEYS, beginning in 1947, which PSD has filmed. Further microfiche copies of declassified publications will be sent to the Library as they are completed by PSD.
2. Ask NTIS to advertise that declassified FBIS (weekly and biweekly) publications providing analyses of Soviet, Chinese, and other Communist propaganda are available for purchase--on microfilm from 1947 through December 1966, and on microfiche from January 1967 through August 1972.
3. Declassify TRENDS since September 1972 through a period six months prior to the current date. Ask NTIS to advertise these for sale on microfiche.
4. Ask NTIS to advertise that as of a date to be determined, TRENDS, which are automatically declassified six months after date of issue, will be available through annual subscription, either on microfiche or in hard copy.
5. Print the present disclaimer, which now appears on the inside cover, also on the first page of text: "This propaganda analysis report is based exclusively on material carried in foreign broadcast and press media. It is published by FBIS without coordination with other U.S. Government components." Print appropriate classification/declassification information on each page of text as required.

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☐ UNCLASSIFIED

☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY

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☐ SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Declassification of the FBIS TRENDS

FROM:

Deputy Director for Intelligence

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

25 November 1974

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

D/FBIS

Don--

2.

3.

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12.

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14.

15.

I have approved the recommendations as you presented them. Before you implement steps 2 through 4 as listed in the attachment to your memorandum, I would like to see any text that you propose to circulate to the public. I also have some problems with the disclaimer as presented in step 5; we should talk about this.

/s/ Ed
Ed Proctor

cc:

Mr. Thuermer

STAT

Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020007-9